

NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 158

Introduced by Stuhr, 24; Bourne, 8

Read first time May 17, 2005

Committee:

PURPOSE: To study the topic of human trafficking in the state and whether or not current statutes are adequate to address this issue. Issues addressed by this interim study may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Collect and organize data on the nature and extent of trafficking in persons in the state;

(2) Investigate collaborative models for protecting victims of trafficking;

(3) Measure and evaluate the progress of the state in:

(a) Preventing trafficking;

(b) Protecting and providing assistance to victims of trafficking; and

(c) Prosecuting persons engaged in trafficking;

(4) Identify available federal, state, and local programs that provide services to victims of trafficking that include, but are not limited to, health care, human services, housing, education, legal assistance, job training or preparation, interpreting services, English as a second language classes, voluntary repatriation, and victim's compensation;

(5) Evaluate approaches to increase public awareness of trafficking;

(6) Analyze existing state criminal statutes for their adequacy in addressing trafficking and, if such analysis determines that those statutes are inadequate, recommend revisions to those statutes or the enactment of new statutes that specifically define and address trafficking; and

(7) Consult with governmental and nongovernmental organizations in developing recommendations to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent trafficking, protect and assist victims of trafficking, and prosecute traffickers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.